KURO HAKUSHAKU WA HOSHI O MEDERU 17

Translator: Ryu, Krys
Proofreader: Tasneem
Cleaner: Apunchman
Typesetter: kimeru369
Quality Control: phoenixalia

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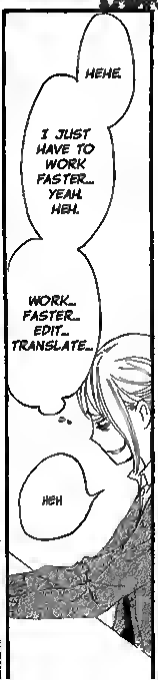

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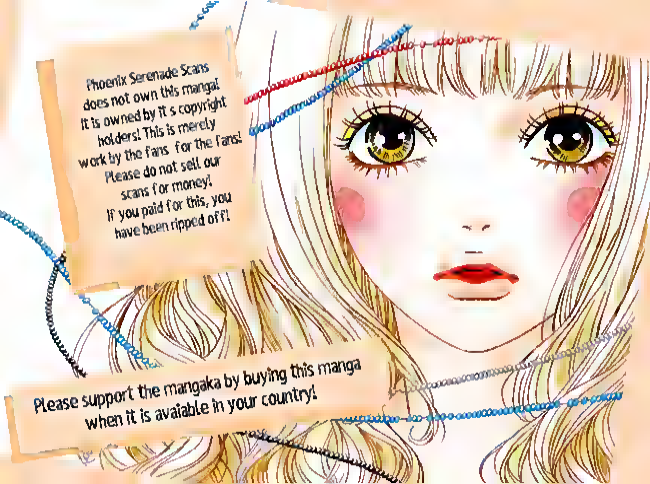
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Episode. 17

grab

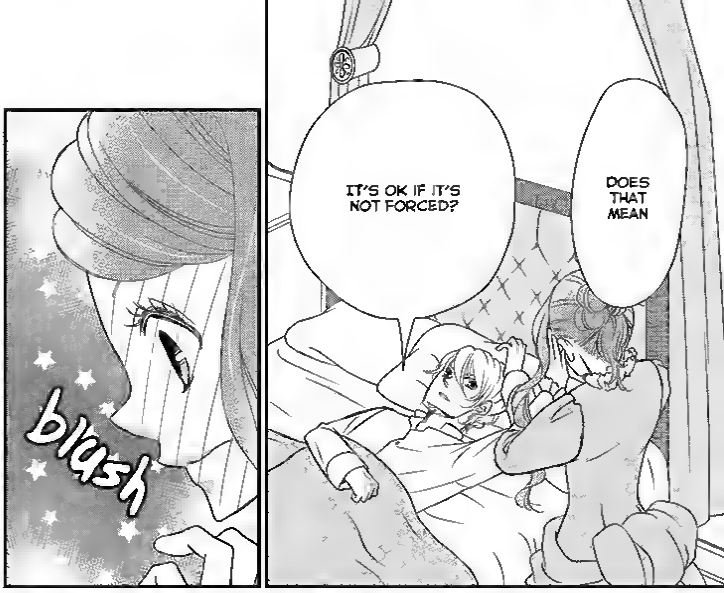
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
JUMPS
snort
WOAH!
EH?
I'M SO SORRY, I DOZED OFF...
DID YOU...
..HOLD MY HAND THE WHOLE TIME?

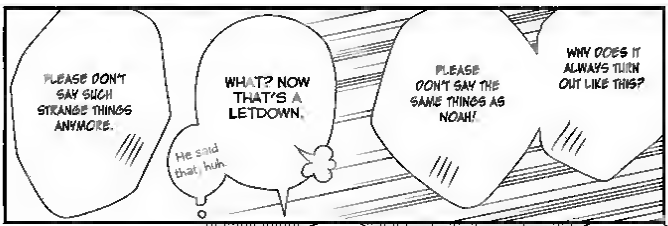
THIS IS SOMETHING ONLY YOU CAN DO.
HUH?
NO, UH ..
THIS IS ALL I COULD DO ..
HAHA, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AH ..
THANK YOU
SLIDE
IT'S OK, I'M ALRIGHT NOW..
...
YOU'RE...
...TOO GOOD-NATURED.

...THIS MORNING.
THE WAY YOU ACTED?
YOU HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO GO THIS FAR FOR ME.
AFTER THE WAY I ACTED,
TOUCH
WHAT?
I'M SORRY.
TH—
WHEN I FORCED A KISS ON YOU.

I'M SO SORRY.
KNOWING WHAT VAMPIRES MEAN TO YOU AND YOUR PARENTS...
FOR ME, AS THE BRIDE OF HOUSE VALENTINE, TO BE SO CLOSE TO THAT VAMPIRE, I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT...
CLATTER
THAT'S SOMETHING I SHOULD BE APOLOGIZING FOR!
IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR YOU TO GET ANGRY THE WAY YOU DID
UNDERSTAND ANYTHING...
I DIDN'T...
WHY DID YOU MENTION MY PARENTS?
GILBERT TOLD YOU, DIDN'T HE...
Damn

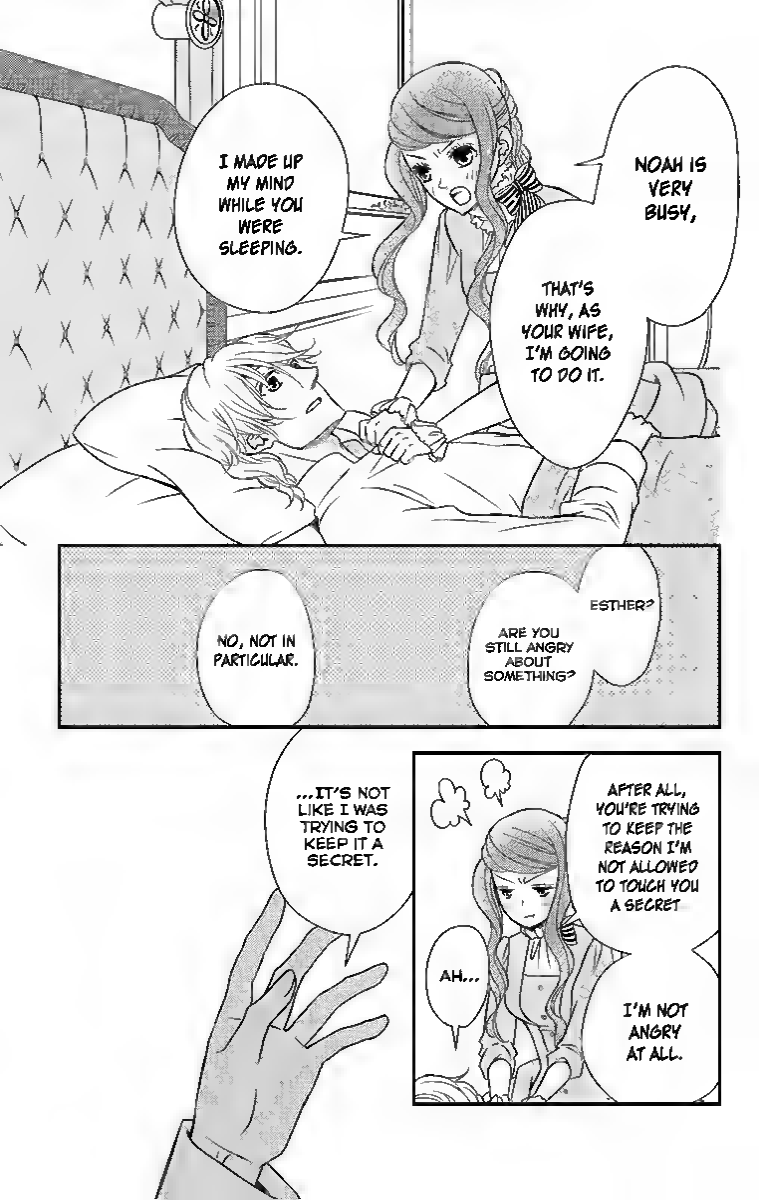
GOOD GRIEF,
FOR SOMEONE SO ADORABLE,
. . . IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU AND I AREN'T EVEN TALKING ABOUT THE SAME THING.
DING
BUT,
YOU KNOW,
The true meaning of that kiss...
To not even understand...
I DON'T WANT TO EXPERIENCE
THAT KIND OF FORCED, SORROWFUL KISS AGAIN.


blush
IT'S OK IF IT'S NOT FORCED?
DOES THAT MEAN


PLEASE DON'T SAY SUCH STRANGE THINGS ANYMORE.
WHAT? NOW THAT'S A LETDOWN.
He said that, huh.
PLEASE DON'T SAY THE SAME THINGS AS NOAH!
WHY DOES IT ALWAYS TURN OUT LIKE THIS?

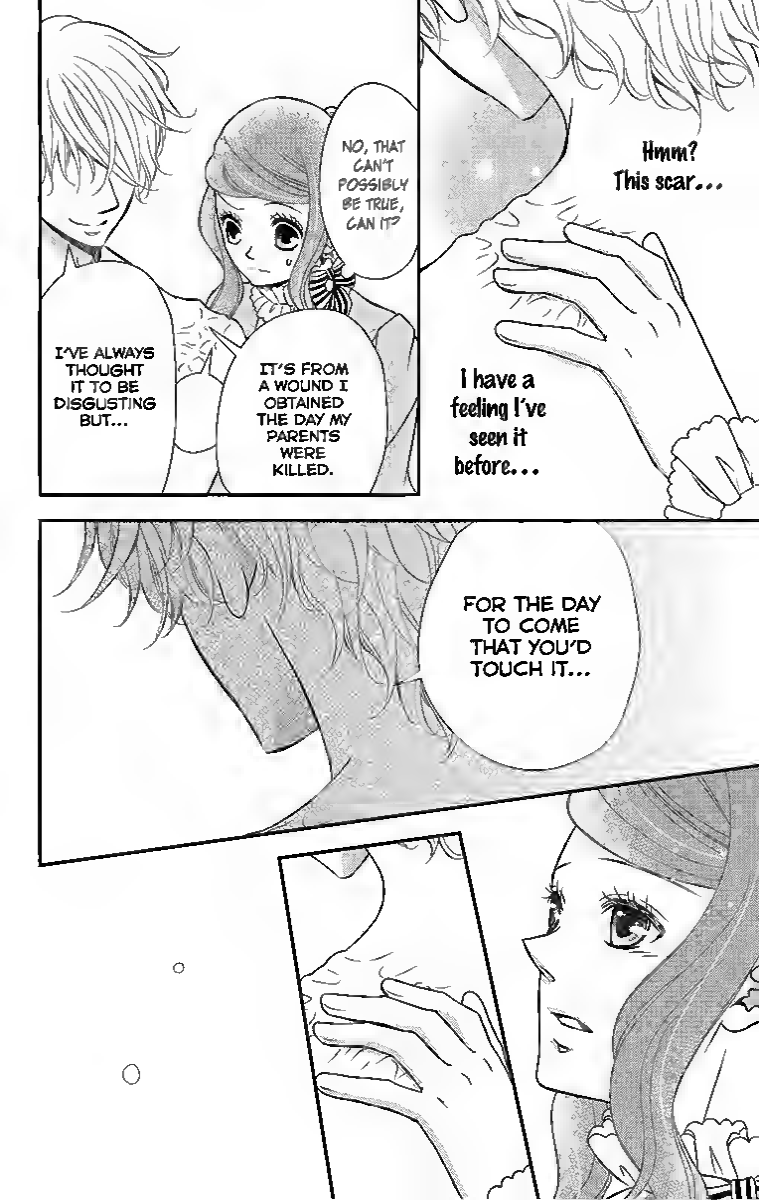
THAT'S WHY, LIKE I SAID BEFORE...
ESTHER ...
DON'T SAY ANYTHING.

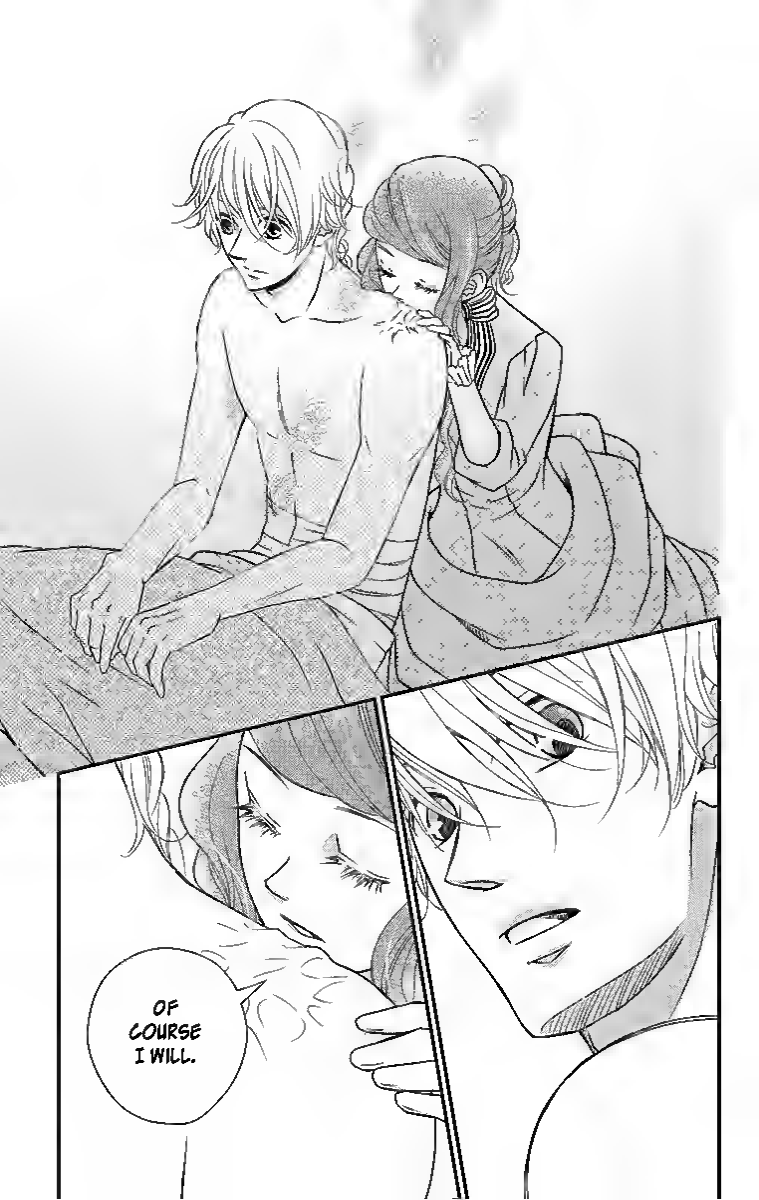
SO I'M UNDRESSING YOU!
I'D LIKE TO WIPE YOU DOWN,
!


I MADE UP MY MIND WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING.
NOAH IS VERY BUSY,
THAT'S WHY, AS YOUR WIFE, I'M GOING TO DO IT.
NO, NOT IN PARTICULAR.
ESTHER?
ARE YOU STILL ANGRY ABOUT SOMETHING?
...IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS TRYING TO KEEP IT A SECRET.
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE TRYING TO KEEP THE REASON I'M NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH YOU A SECRET
AH...
I'M NOT ANGRY AT ALL.

He did it for my sake?
WHA...
DIDN'T WANT TO SHOW YOU THIS REPULSIVE OLD SCAR.
I JUST
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!
I'M YOUR WIFE
OF COURSE I'D LIKE YOU TO SHOW IT TO ME.
YOU WON'T BE AFRAID?
AFRAID?
YOU KNOW, I'M NOT A CHILD.
UHH...
YOU SHOULDN'T GET UP YET..
LEON!?
IN THAT CASE...
creak
I SEE... YOU'RE INDEED ALREADY A FINE YOUNG WOMAN.

AS MY WIFE.
I'LL BE GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOU WIPE ME DOWN.
THUMP
ドキン
Y...
YES, RIGHT AWAY!
AH— THIS IS THE OLD SCAR..?

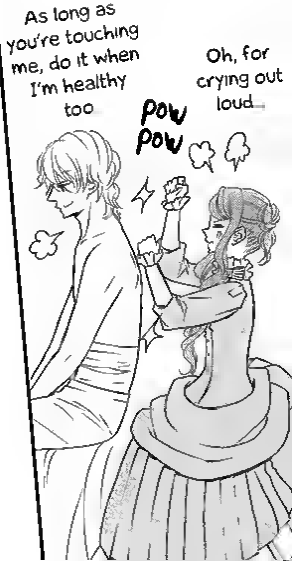

Hmm? This scar...
I have a feeling I've seen it before...
NO, THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE, CAN IT?
IT'S FROM A WOUND I OBTAINED THE DAY MY PARENTS WERE KILLED.
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT TO BE DISGUSTING BUT...
FOR THE DAY TO COME THAT YOU'D TOUCH IT...


OF COURSE I WILL.

IF TOUCHING IT MEANS THAT THE PAIN YOU FEEL EVERY TIME YOU LOOK AT IT WILL DIE DOWN
EVEN IF ONLY A LITTLE,
I'LL TOUCH IT AS MUCH AS IT TAKES.
Without a doubt
She truly is...

THANK YOU.
AH! IF WE DON'T HURRY YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
WAIT, PLEASE. I'LL TAKE MY PANTS OFF TOO.
EH!?
WHAT? WEREN'T YOU GOING TO WIPE MY WHOLE BODY?
WHAA!?
Y-YES, OF COURSE! THEN, AT LEAST, LET ME GET SOMETHING TO COVER YOU WITH...
flustered
heh
And spending every day with you like this...
When I saw you again
I probably fell in love with you.
Hey, Esther...
IT WAS A JOKE.
squeeze
I thought of you as a little sister, but
When we first met,

I'll keep on falling.



CREAK
AT LAST, IT'S TIME.
I'M GLAD LEON'S WOUNDS HAVE ALSO HEALED.
YOU'VE DONE WELL TO HAVE LASTED THIS LONG.
HEHE, EVERYONE HELPED ME OUT.
IT'S TIME.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF COUNT VALENTINE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
chatter
chatter
YUP!
HAVE YOU ALL BEEN WELL?
LORD LEON!
HOW ADORABLE!
TUG TUG
WHO ARE YOU, BIG SIS?
EH?
COLE,
SHE IS MY BRIDE, ESTHER.
EVERYONE, PLEASE TREAT HER WELL.
Yes sir!
BAM!
LORD LEON HAS A BRIDE!?
Senior Maiden Candidates
THUMP
THUMP
WELL THEN, LET US BEGIN.

LEON, GOOD WORK TODAY.
THE TEA IS READY.
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE
ヒュ
オオ

tug
IT WAS ON CHRISTMAS EVE
THAT MY PARENTS DIED.
!
THOUGH I SAID THAT THIS PARTY WAS FOR THE SAKE OF HOUSE VALENTINE, THE TRUTH IS
IT MAY HAVE BEEN JUST ME TRYING TO COVER UP THE PAST WITH HAPPIER MEMORIES.

THANK YOU, ESTHER.
Dear Lord...
I FEEL LIKE I MANAGED TO COVER UP EVERYTHING.
AND BECAUSE YOU WERE HERE THIS YEAR
Please let it be...
MERRY CHRISTMAS, ALGERNON.
A tender light shine upon Leon
I beg you
I have a wish
Now and forevermore, please only let

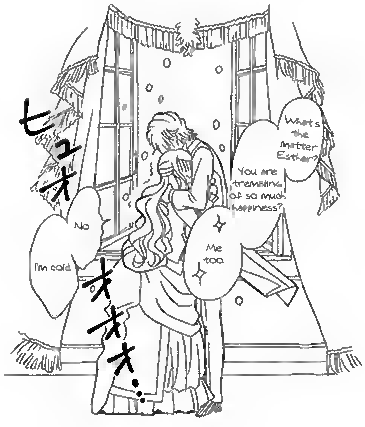
HUH.
DO VAMPIRES ALSO SAY THAT?
EH? WE DO, WE DO.
DON'T SIT HERE DROWNING IN MELANCHOLY ALL BY YOURSELF.
LET US RAISE A TOAST TO THIS HOLY NIGHT!
MUST I?
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
YOU'RE PRETTY BAD AT THIS, AL.
...
YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE DOING THIS, DON'T YOU

DRINKING BLOOD, THAT IS.
HUH?
BY THE WAY, ESTHER
OH!
MISTLE-TOE!?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE STANDING UNDER RIGHT NOW?
GIVEN YOUR REACTION, I ASSUME YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.

UNDER THE MISTLETOE, A WOMAN CANNOT REJECT A MAN'S KISS.
I KNOW/
I'VE KISSED PAUL UNDER ONE OF THESE.
WHAT...!? PAUL...?
OH YES, THE GUY WHO KEPT FOLLOWING YOU AROUND, DAY AFTER DAY.
YOU KNOW OF HIM !?
YOU COULD EVEN SAY I CHECKED UP ON HIM.
YOU SAID YOU KISSED HIM?
N-NO, THAT'S NOT IT
THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS WERE PLAYING AROUND AND TOOK ME UNDER THE MISTLETOE, SO WITHOUT MUCH OF A CHOICE I-
WAS HE YOUR LOVER?
I SEE...
IN THAT CASE, WON'T YOU PLEASE FORGET ABOUT THAT KISS FOR ME?

I'VE HAD SUCH A DREAM-LIKE CHRISTMAS.
Mother
This is
the first time
TONIGHT, I'LL BE THE ONE TO TAKE IT FROM YOU.
NO OBJECT-IONS, I HOPE?
...NO.

I can't help but think about if I'll be able to spend this day
Like this again next year
With everyone in the mansion
With the kids
And with Leon
TH...
HOW ADO-RABLE
EH!?
PLEASE BREATHE THROUGH YOUR NOSE.
pfft
TH... THAT WAS LONG!
HAAH
PULL PULL
NO, WE CAN'T!
WELL THEN, LET'S TAKE IT FROM THE TOP, ONE MORE TIME.
I've become quite greedy.
I'm sorry Mother.


ヒュオ
No
I'm cold
オオオ…
Me too
You are trembling. Of so much happiness?
What's the matter, Esther?

MISS ESTHER MAYFIELD,
I SHALL HAVE YOU.
AH.
I COULD FINALLY PRESENT MYSELF BEFORE YOU.
IT CAN'T BE...

IS THAT YOU, JOHN?
JOHN,
LEON...
BUT I'M SORRY, MY REAL NAME IS LEON.
SO YOU REMEMBERED ME.
JUST LIKE WE PROMISED EACH OTHER LONG AGO, LET'S GET MARRIED.
YES!
ME TOO, ESTHER, ME TOO.
I'VE MISSED YOU, LEON!
end

THIS MORNING, I WOKE UP WITH A REALLY GOOD MOOD.
AND THAT'S WHAT I DREAMT OF.
disdainful
pitiful
WHAT'S WITH THOSE PITIFUL AND DISDAINFUL EYES?
YOUR MOOD IS MOST IMPORTANT. SO PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR DUTIES

Hello.

Thank you very much for buying "Kuro Hakushaku wa Hoshi o Mederu"!

Although it is the 6th month edition, I'm sorry for presenting Christmas everywhere, from the cover to the content. But this Christmas volume is filled with emotion as I've thought about it from the start and I drew the couple's meeting. Also it was fun to draw the small twins!
The next volume will have totally new chapter so it will have the feeling that many things will change. I still don't know how much I can write but, I will do my best to make it fun to read so I would be happy if you would keep reading it.
Well then let us meet again in the next volume!

201505 Hisamu Oto

I would be very happy to hear your thoughts.
Tel 101-0063
Tokyo Chiyoda district Kanda street nr. 2-2-2
Agency, Chief Editor Hana to Yume,
Hisamu Oto